MR. D. GAINNEOS: Definite information has to be called for from the department.

Buses and lorries purchased for the Transport Department.

71. ***MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN:** Will the Government be pleased to state the number of buses and lorries with high speed diesel engines purchased for the Transport Department and the number of such buses and lorries that now ply on the various lines?

MR. E. G. SALTER (*Director of Transport*): 71 buses and 15 lorries with diesel engines were purchased, out of which 51 buses and 14 lorries are now plying on the various lines.

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU: ൭൧ ഡിസൽ എൻജിൻ ബസ്സുകൾ വാങ്ങിയിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നു പറയുന്നു. അതിൽ ൫൧ ബസ്സേ ഇപ്പോൾ ഓടുന്നുള്ളു. ബാക്കി ൨൦ എണ്ണം എവിടെ പോയി എന്നു ചോദ്യം ചെയ്യുവാൻ ഒരവസരമുണ്ടാകുമോ?

MR. E. G. SALTER: Out of the 20 buses, one was burnt, two converted into lorries and the remaining 17 are temporarily withdrawn from service due to the non-availability of spare parts.

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU: ഇപ്പോൾ ഓടിക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന ബസ്സുകളിൽ കുറച്ചു ഡീസലിൽ നിന്നു പെട്രോളിലേക്കു മാറ്റിയിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

MR. E. G. SALTER: Out of the 51 buses in service, 27 have been fitted with petrol engines.

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU: ഇങ്ങനെ കുറച്ചു ഓടിച്ചു കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന വണ്ടികൾ പെട്രോൾ കുറച്ചു ഓടിക്കുന്ന വണ്ടികളാക്കാൻ കൂടുതൽ വ്യയം വന്നിട്ടില്ലെ?

MR. E. G. SALTER: It is perfectly true that we spend more money as a result of operating on petrol.

MR. A. K. KUMARAN VAIDYAN (*Kunnatnad cum Parur*): ഈ ൫൧ ബസ്സുകളിൽ ചിരട്ടക്കരിയുടെ ഗ്യാസ് കൊണ്ടു ഓടിക്കുന്ന വണ്ടികൾ എത്ര എണ്ണം ഉണ്ടെന്നു പറയാമോ?

MR. E. G. SALTER: The honourable members will be aware, I hope, that the question of operating on charcoal is only in the experimental stage. We have now one bus operating on charcoal and I am glad to inform the House that the results have surpassed my expectation and I hope that within the next year every vehicle which is now operated on petrol will be operated on indigenous fuel.

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU: കുറച്ചു കൊണ്ടു ഓടിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരുന്ന ബസ്സുകൾ പെട്രോൾ കൊണ്ടു ഓടിക്കുന്ന ബസ്സുകളാക്കണമെന്നു നിശ്ചയിക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള കാരണമെന്താണു?

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MR. E. G. SALTER: May I explain, Sir. As a result of the outbreak of war we could not get component parts of the vehicles operated on diesel oil. The parts for diesel oil injection apparatus came originally from the Bosch works of Germany. There is a factory in London known as C. A. V. Bosch which manufactured a small quantity of these parts, but on the outbreak of war the entire production of this factory was taken over for the manufacture of diesel parts for tanks. We were thus confronted with the necessity of choosing the lesser of the two evils, either converting the vehicles to the more expensive method of operation, *viz.*, petrol or ceasing to operate them entirely.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR (*Karunagapally* cum *Karthigapally*): May I know when these 20 buses were got down?

MR. E. G. SALTER: They are a part of the original order of 60 buses which arrived, part of it in November 1937 and the balance in the latter end of December 1937.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: May I know how long they were in service?

MR. E. G. SALTER: It varies. They have operated from 73 thousand to 100 thonsand miles before they were withdrawn from service.

MR KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: May I know the exact proportion of depreciation?

MR. E. G. SALTER: It is calculated at 25 per cent whether they operate or not.

MR. T. T. KESAVAN SASTRI (*Nominated*) ഏതെങ്കിലും ബസ്സ് പാരായംമാത്രംകൊണ്ട് ഓടിക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ?

MR. E. G. SALTER: No. Our present supply is limited to hundred thousand gallons per year That is sufficient for only ten buses.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: If the depreciation is caculated at 25 per cent, will not the buses run at least for two years?

PRESIDENT: Yes.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN (*Quilon* cum *Kottarakara*): May I know whether the experiment has been successful?

MR. E. G. SALTER: Yes, we have been operating for the past six months using 25 per cent alcohol mixed with 75 per cent of petrol.

Buses got down till 15-2-1116 *for the State Transport Department.*

72. *MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of buses got down or purchased till 15-2-1116 for the State Transport Department;

(*b*) whether they are of one make or of different makes:

(*c*) if of different makes, the number of buses under each make;

(*d*) the expenditure for oil for one bus of each make for running 100 miles;

(*e*) if petrol is used, the cost of petrol and lubricating oil;

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